

THE GUARDIAN
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ENGLISH SECTION

refugees

cooperates with the flow of asylum-seekers."

The controversy has above all helped to dramatize the internal debate on the need to revise the procedure for accepting political refugees in West Germany. Long a champion of tight immigration controls, Interior Minister Friedrich Zimmermann (Christian Democrats) has for months succeeded in overriding FDP reservations and imposing his views. In a highly influential memoir published in the *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, the Christian Social Party's official publication, Bayernkurier, Zimmermann said that the present situation opened the door to "billions" of refugees into the Federal Republic.

Determined to exploit the situation and turn it into a major campaign issue in the coming elections, the CDU has participated successfully in recent weeks in getting Chancellor Kohl's Christian Democratic Party leadership to tilt towards it. Wolfgang Schauble, the minister of state at the Chancellor's office, declared his support for amending the Constitution. However, this is tricky ground for the Christian Democrats, who are the Democrats' main ally. By tightening up of the procedure for processing demands for asylum, but the vast majority of them are not the usual kind of refugees. The right they consider fundamental.

(August 10/11)

Leaders

population in this region where

churter granting autonomy to the Basques, the result of a "biator agnrement" between the Madrid government and the PNV. More and more nationalist voices are being heard today in Bilbao and Vitoria calling for the agrnment to be reviewed.

Those who champion this view point say that the artificial exterior along throughout Spain of the system of granting autonomy be

politics of the two "historic nationalities", the Basque country and Catalonia, the only ones who were not, they ask, conclude another agreement with Madrid while still staying within the limits set by the constitution would be the cognate of the individualism of the Basques and Catalans and enable the Basque problem be settled once and for all. This dismissal of all this as trivialised as irrelevant to the struggle against ETA. Nothing less certain, retort the nationalists who feel that the progress of nationalism is a process that will influence always go hand in hand in the Basque country. Behind the controversy over the French at the moment of negotiating with ETA, it is indeed the whole area of the region that is once again being debated in Bilbao.

The circumstances in which a 24-year-old motorcycle, William Norment, met his death in the Paris suburb of Fontenay-sous-Bois continue to fuel controversy. During the reconstruction of the incident on Tuesday evening last week at the very spot it took place in no way helped to clear things up. Henri Garaud, the lawyer defending the 23-year-old policeman who shot the motorcycle, said in the back, now claims there is a case for a "justifiable subjective self-defence". The lawyer retained by the dead man's family, Francis Taravieux, however, did not understand this idea of justifiable subjective self-defence. What I do know is that William Norment

objectively dead." One of the more disturbing allegations made in the case — that the policeman walked up to the dying motorcycle and sprayed him with tear gas — was not entered during the reconstruction. After the reconstruction, the policeman, Eric Lagneau, was set free under judicial control. Coming a mere three weeks after the incident on the Rue de Mogador in which a young man was killed while driving a small car — was killed by a policeman, who is also pleading justifiable self-defence, this new incident has touched off widespread speculation on what are called police bavures "all-up".

Pasqua gave police 'carte blanche'

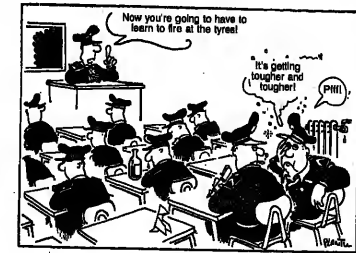
By André Fontaine

SO HERE we have a policeman remanded for a "clip-up". Let's say he is paying for others. His confusion when he saw the body of the young man he shot at save enough in fact to show that, as the charge puts it, "he did not intend to cause necessary considering how the mood has deteriorated lately and it is important to change this as quickly as possible."

What is serious in this state of affairs is the far-too-widespread tendency to jump to conclusions without knowing the facts. Here in France a person is presumed to be innocent until proven guilty. Charles Pasqua (Interior Minister) was right to demand that no exceptions be made in the case of policemen. But we are entitled to demand that no exceptions be made either for their victims. Now in the Rue de Mogador case, in the Fontenay-sous-Bois incident, the police's first reaction was to make the dead man out to be a scoundrel. Even if this was indeed the case it was no excuse at all. Unless the idea was to justify the claim made by SOS Racism — and it is quite probable — until proved otherwise — that the death penalty has in practice been reserved... and without trial.

People being what they are, we cannot unfortunately rule out the hypothesis of X or Y, policemen by profession, killing or asking of killing or, if you like, set an example, as people say. It is obvious, though, that in the vast majority of respectable and in the immediate cause is to be sought not in intentions but in nervousness.

The nervousness is understandable, and those who are able to retainly identify against the police because they are not to speak, allergic to them should sometimes take the trouble to put themselves in the shoes of the terror to the widely held belief and without going back to the centuries when, as Jean Duvigneau has shown us well, fear was present everywhere, insecurity has diminished considerably today. But it is precisely because of this that it is relatively rare that we become bolder to reconcile ourselves to it. Formerly, insecurity was as it were part and parcel of everyday living. Today, in a Western world which believes it has availed the inevitability of the future, a vast system of protection against most risks, the risk of violence



Drawing by Pharis

seems quite unacceptable. We find it hard to believe that half a century ago Mussolini was widely observed when he called on his fellow Italians to "live dangerously". Today, except that they may not everybody from Gorbachev to Reagan, from Le Pen to Mitterrand, the politician's fear remains, however, this uncertainty has left many people, especially the young, without money and feeling desperately empty days. When the overworking urge to succumb to the violence that terrorism is then. And on top of that, when they are not quite simply home-grown, as so special reason for leaving France out of the sphere of their deadly activities. The conclusion is that we have to take the risk putting their own security on the line in order to guarantee ours.

These people are entitled to expect a minimum of understanding from those who take law or no law. But all too often policemen find themselves caught between the segment of the public which blames them for doing too much and another which would like them to do more, squeezed between these who are instinctively inclined to see them as "fascists" and racists, and others who, prompted by opposite reactions, imagine that they are the cause of a "war" would quickly eliminate all forms of crime. At any rate, many police officers would get a better deal from the public if the press talked less about their slip-ups and more about the price — ultimately preserving law and order.

Obviously this is what prompted Charles Pasqua, the moment he moved into the Interior Ministry, to practically give an undertaking to cover his troops. He must realize today that the police are particularly unwise words, considering that the inactive reflexes of some people invite to look out. Now, in the face of brutal treatment at the hands of the police, have any chance of providing either to run away and risk being shot in the back, or shoot first. This can only be done by the police, but between those who have no right to order and those who prefer justice, even if the contemplation of justice is "the pleasure of alone", as Rimbaud put it so well.

In this area as in many others, there is no stock recipe, no "you've got-to-do-it-this" formula, only the need to say every moment to reconcile exigencies which are less irreconcilable than they may appear at first sight. For if there is no real justice without a modicum of realism, there is no true realism without a modicum of justice.

It is of course primarily a question of the quality of man. Many policemen do their job well, and yet nobody talks about them. The ideal would be for a man trying to steal from a parked car, the man drew a knife on him and Gascales fired a shot in the air, then pistol-whipped his attacker into the gutter and then the police drove from their machine pistols and put an end to the exploits of an unbalanced youth armed with a shotgun. Or the GIGN (special brigades) policemen who overpowered a madman on the Rue de Mogador who had been taking pot shots at tourists for a couple of weeks.

Not everybody is as cool-headed or has the same reactions, or even the same luck. Just last Saturday, at Saint-Etienne-du-Rouvray, a policeman was shot and seriously injured when checking out a car by a strange sort of security guard. And the carelessness of a motorist killed a policeman on a highway resulting in the death of a gendarme trying to deal with the traffic. The fact remains that the quality of training and the leadership count for much in the behaviour of men.

It is also the fact that the former Interior Minister, a Socialist, certainly made a mistake by distributing bottles of wine to the police. It was a mistake that three weeks ago in the Paris metro a 21-year-old trainee policeman shot and killed not only his victim but also himself. In any case, let us beware of allowing the controversy to become politicized. It would be disastrous for a nation's unity if the "left" became the party of weakness and the right the party of the right, and the right the party of "top" in the left view, and the left the party of "bottom" in the right view. At least appears to have understood this well.

(August 8)

Minister and the 'wagonloads of dirty money'

MICHEL JEOL, public prosecutor attached to the Paris court, has signed a petition against the criminal division of the Court of Cassation to appoint a judge to examine the case concerning the fraudulent invoices alleged to have been made out by a Beaupaire (later) printer at the request of former Minister of Cooperation Christian Nucci. It is Nucci's position as mayor of Beaupaire that prompted the Paris Public Prosecutor's office to take this case. Nucci, who was charged with an offence within the meaning of Article 887 of the Penal Code, was charged with the meaning of Article 887 of the Penal Code, who said he is going on holiday, has since said he is quite satisfied with the judicial procedure and that he has no intention of resigning either as mayor or Deputy.

Daniel Ronjet, the Beaupaire printer who was charged on July 23 with breach of trust and falsifying private or business documents, implicated Nucci by alleging it was on the latter's instructions that he made out the invoices for work that did not match any services actually provided.

These developments, which are

By Daniel Schneidermann

peripheral to the case concerning the management of the public funds entrusted to the Carrefour du Développement association, are nevertheless related to the instance of misappropriation of public money through financial "laundering". It is therefore up to the Court of Cassation, which will give its final ruling within a week or so, to decide whether or not the petition being received by the court out of the limits of any future judicial inquiry. Logically, the case should be turned over to Jean-Pierre Michau, the magistrate who has been investigating the Carrefour du Développement case since May.

All the Socialist Duponts who last weekend went to visit their constituents in the Carrefour du Développement have returned carrying the same message. And the message is: "Enough is enough. The Socialist Party must have done Christian Nucci, who was one of its most colourful ministers, a great favour, for many of the things, such as his fondness for his company, his incredible naivety, and the pathetically clumsy way in which he handled himself. But if there is one all that is unpardonable in the eyes of a Socialist, it is his failure to pay party subscriptions out of public funds."

"For a militant, that's the worst thing," said Michel Sautin (PS, Hauts-de-Seine). "In a highly agricultural party like ours this is a great failure, but not at all likely to undermine," added Louis Meunier, former minister of Poles and Telecommunications. "A very different view is taken of this at the grassroots level," confirmed Philippe Marchand (PS, Charente-Maritime).

While this is so, the more charitable Socialists are trying to find excuses for the former minister. "I think the only way to defend him in his private office," replied Daniel Dumas, former Foreign

Minister, who drew one expert conclusion from the case "Proof has now been provided that one must do a better job of locking up one's private office." Meanwhile, even further and wondered whether Nucci had not been drawn into the case by the former minister. "I think Nucci was misled by his office by someone," said Josep Lomela (PS, Eure) expressed his surprise at "how little justice is shown to anxious to amuse Nucci Chaler."

Nobody for the moment wants to speculate on the penalties likely to be meted out to the former minister. "Let justice follow its course," said Jean-Pierre Sauer (PS, Loiret) curdy. Caught off-guard by the case, the Paris Public Prosecutor's Office was taking "protective measures" in connection with Nucci. Socialists, however, have been trying to canvass the legal opinions of the more learned among them. One Deputy explained recently before the Chamber that the procedure consisted

in "in fact of appointing a judge who will hear Christian Nucci as a witness." Off-camera however he admitted: "I feel is not a man to take a decision of this sort lightly." In short, it is more than probable that Nucci will be charged.

Said another Deputy: "Some of our ministers reacted to power like mad." He said Michel Sautin, however, who by light of the evidence had the right to be the old rich and knew how to go about things discreetly. And the Cooperation Minister was in one of the most vulnerable positions. Is more than now passing before his eyes wagonloads of dirty money every day. Dirty for a good cause, of course, but a secret one all the same. Then came a moment when told himself "Why shouldn't I?" And that was it.

(August 7)

Tyndall-Guardian Funds Prices

Prices as at 1 August, 1986

North American Fund	\$23.74
Money Fund	\$26.98
Overseas Fund	\$17.52
Pacific Fund	Yen 3005
Well Street Fund	\$34.81
Monetary Fund	C\$10.46
Commodity Fund	\$27.77
European Fund	\$22.20
Gold Fund	\$6.80

Further information on our fund prices can be obtained from Tyndall-Guardian, 125, 126, 127, 128, 129, 130, 131, 132, 133, 134, 135, 136, 137, 138, 139, 140, 141, 142, 143, 144, 145, 146, 147, 148, 149, 150, 151, 152, 153, 154, 155, 156, 157, 158, 159, 160, 161, 162, 163, 164, 165, 166, 167, 168, 169, 170, 171, 172, 173, 174, 175, 176, 177, 178, 179, 180, 181, 182, 183, 184, 185, 186, 187, 188, 189, 190, 191, 192, 193, 194, 195, 196, 197, 198, 199, 200, 201, 202, 203, 204, 205, 206, 207, 208, 209, 210, 211, 212, 213, 214, 215, 216, 217, 218, 219, 220, 221, 222, 223, 224, 225, 226, 227, 228, 229, 230, 231, 232, 233, 234, 235, 236, 237, 238, 239, 240, 241, 242, 243, 244, 245, 246, 247, 248, 249, 250, 251, 252, 253, 254, 255, 256, 257, 258, 259, 260, 261, 262, 263, 264, 265, 266, 267, 268, 269, 270, 271, 272, 273, 274, 275, 276, 277, 278, 279, 280, 281, 282, 283, 284, 285, 286, 287, 288, 289, 290, 291, 292, 293, 294, 295, 296, 297, 298, 299, 300, 301, 302, 303, 304, 305, 306, 307, 308, 309, 310, 311, 312, 313, 314, 315, 316, 317, 318, 319, 320, 321, 322, 323, 324, 325, 326, 327, 328, 329, 330, 331, 332, 333, 334, 335, 336, 337, 338, 339, 340, 341, 342, 343, 344, 345, 346, 347, 348, 349, 350, 351, 352, 353, 354, 355, 356, 357, 358, 359, 360, 361, 362, 363, 364, 365, 366, 367, 368, 369, 370, 371, 372, 373, 374, 375, 376, 377, 378, 379, 380, 381, 382, 383, 384, 385, 386, 387, 388, 389, 390, 391, 392, 393, 394, 395, 396, 397, 398, 399, 400, 401, 402, 403, 404, 405, 406, 407, 408, 409, 410, 411, 412, 413, 414, 415, 416, 417, 418, 419, 420, 421, 422, 423, 424, 425, 426, 427, 428, 429, 430, 431, 432, 433, 434, 435, 436, 437, 438, 439, 440, 441, 442, 443, 444, 445, 446, 447, 448, 449, 450, 451, 452, 453, 454, 455, 456, 457, 458, 459, 460, 461, 462, 463, 464, 465, 466, 467, 468, 469, 470, 471, 472, 473, 474, 475, 476, 477, 478, 479, 480, 481, 482, 483, 484, 485, 486, 487, 488, 489, 490, 491, 492, 493, 494, 495, 496, 497, 498, 499, 500, 501, 502, 503, 504, 505, 506, 507, 508, 509, 510, 511, 512, 513, 514, 515, 516, 517, 518, 519, 520, 521, 522, 523, 524, 525, 526, 527, 528, 529, 530, 531, 532, 533, 534, 535, 536, 537, 538, 539, 540, 541, 542, 543, 544, 545, 546, 547, 548, 549, 550, 551, 552, 553, 554, 555, 556, 557, 558, 559, 560, 561, 562, 563, 564, 565, 566, 567, 568, 569, 570, 571, 572, 573, 574, 575, 576, 577, 578, 579, 580, 581, 582, 583, 584, 585, 586, 587, 588, 589, 590, 591, 592, 593, 594, 595, 596, 597, 598, 599, 600, 601, 602, 603, 604, 605, 606, 607, 608, 609, 610, 611, 612, 613, 614, 615, 616, 617, 618, 619, 620, 621, 622, 623, 624, 625, 626, 627, 628, 629, 630, 631, 632, 633, 634, 635, 636, 637, 638, 639, 640, 641, 642, 643, 644, 645, 646, 647, 648, 649, 650, 651, 652, 653, 654, 655, 656, 657, 658, 659, 660, 661, 662, 663, 664, 665, 666, 667, 668, 669, 670, 671, 672, 673, 674, 675, 676, 677, 678, 679, 680, 681, 682, 683, 684, 685, 686, 687, 688, 689, 690, 691, 692, 693, 694, 695, 696, 697, 698, 699, 700, 701, 702, 703, 704, 705, 706, 707, 708, 709, 710, 711, 712, 713, 714, 715, 716, 717, 718, 719, 720, 721, 722, 723, 724, 725, 726, 727, 728, 729, 730, 731, 732, 733, 734, 735, 736, 737, 738, 739, 740, 741, 742, 743, 744, 745, 746, 747, 748, 749, 750, 751, 752, 753, 754, 755, 756, 757, 758, 759, 760, 761, 762, 763, 764, 765, 766, 767, 768, 769, 770, 771, 772, 773, 774, 775, 776, 777, 778, 779, 780, 781, 782, 783, 784, 785, 786, 787, 788, 789, 790, 791, 792, 793, 794, 795, 796, 797, 798, 799, 800, 801, 802, 803, 804, 805, 806, 807, 808, 809, 810, 811, 812, 813, 814, 815, 816, 817, 818, 819, 820, 821, 822, 823, 824, 825, 826, 827, 828, 829, 830, 831, 832, 833, 834, 835, 836, 837, 838, 839, 840, 841, 842, 843, 844, 845, 846, 847, 848, 849, 850, 851, 852, 853, 854, 855, 856, 857, 858, 859, 860, 861, 862, 863, 864, 865, 866, 867, 868, 869, 870, 871, 872, 873, 874, 875, 876, 877, 878, 879, 880, 881, 882, 883, 884, 885, 886, 887, 888, 889, 890, 891, 892, 893, 894, 895, 896, 897, 898, 899, 900, 901, 902, 903, 904, 905, 906, 907, 908, 909, 910, 911, 912, 913, 914, 915, 916, 917, 918, 919, 920, 921, 922, 923, 924, 925, 926, 927, 928, 929, 930, 931, 932, 933, 934, 935, 936, 937, 938, 939, 940, 941, 942, 943, 944, 945, 946, 947, 948, 949, 950, 951, 952, 953, 954, 955, 956, 957, 958, 959, 960, 961, 962, 963, 964, 965, 966, 967, 968, 969, 970, 971, 972, 973, 974, 975, 976, 977, 978, 979, 980, 981, 982, 983, 984, 985, 986, 987, 988, 989, 990, 991, 992, 993, 994, 995, 996, 997, 998, 999, 1000.

ONCE it touched down on the runway at Abidjan airport, the apologetic white-painted Boeing carrying the 100 passengers of the national flag taxied across the tarmac past the airport buildings and came to a halt in an area out of public gaze and under the "ordonnance" of policemen. The same sort of thing happens in the Gabonese capital, Libreville, at Kinshasa airport in Zaïre, Bangui in Central Africa, Niamey in Kenya and Mogadishu in Somalia. While these mysterious planes do not pick up passengers and their movements are not announced, they do in fact belong to South African Airways (SAA), Pretoria's national carrier.

When the world conference on apartheid took place in Paris in June this year, Senegalese President Abdou Diouf made the point that where there was no apartheid, there was no South Africa. He was concerned African countries were not "all blameless". In August 1984, South Africa's Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs, Colin Nel, put it more bluntly: "All but four African states trade with the apartheid regime. We have no statistics and no proof has ever been produced of this secret trade between the land of apartheid and African states to which we are all opposed."

There is little point recalling all the sordid anti-apartheid declarations made by so many African presidents who have been conducting profitable trade with the "racist regime". African states have always chosen to ignore the implied agreement not to point the finger at "guilty" neighbours for fear of attracting public condemnation from the continent's chief offices of the SDECE (now DGE) — the French intelligence service in Libreville. Despite his long association with South Africa, SAA, which in theory is not allowed to overfly African countries, today stops off at Sal in the Cape Verde island of the same name of the northeastern end of the archipelago. The Amilcar Cabral international airport brings the State of Cape Verde a percentage of its foreign earnings in the form of transit fees. Its capital Praia also serves as a venue for secret contacts between the Angolan government and South Africa.

Cape Verde, Zaïre and the Ivory Coast are the only countries which have open political contacts with South Africa. Ivory Coast President Félix Houphouët-Boigny has turned himself into the promoter of "dialogue" with Pretoria — the handshake at Yamoussoukro in September 1984 between the "Old Man" and Johannes Vorster, the then South African Prime Minister, is a famous example. Where Zaïre is concerned, the South Africans have no hesitation in pointing out that 87 per cent of Kinshasa's imports go through South Africa, which exports 45 per cent of Zaïrean exports of copper (which account for 88 per cent of the country's export earnings) and 40 per cent of its oil and cobalt (40 per cent).

Since the Benguela railway line which goes right across Angola and up to the port of Lobito has been cut because of the guerrilla campaign led by UNITA (National Union for the Total Independence of Angola), Zaïre's main resource which comes from its mineral-rich region of Shaba are at South Africa's mercy. Zaïre is the world's biggest diamond producer. On August 10, 1985, a recent campaign to contract with Brimmond, a firm marketing practically the entire Zaïrean output. Brimmond is a subsidiary of the Anglo-American firm De Beers (Anglo-American group which itself markets 80 per cent of the world's diamond output).

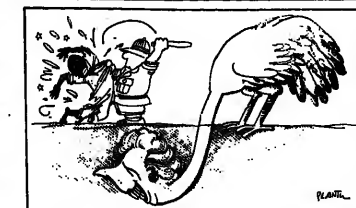
No state in the world guards itself against the sale of South African goods on its territory. The large numbers of imports, except customs officials, fraud and wide-open borders do not permit enforcing a strict boycott. In the Ivory Coast, the government has set up real trade lobbies using Asians (East African) who are not smuggled out before they are out and polished in Belgium (Antwerp) and Israel. The Angolan firm of Diamant was disbanded on July 20 and replaced

Despite their condemnations of apartheid, and particularly of Britain's refusal to go along with the rest of the Commonwealth in adopting far-reaching economic sanctions, most African states continue to trade more or less secretly with South Africa.

Laurent Zecchini reports

Drawing by Pharis

African trade with Pretoria



was presented at the last meeting of OAU foreign ministers and has since been "classified". Similarly, Gabonese President Omar Bongo, who said in Abidjan that he was not concerned the South Africans have no hesitation in pointing out that 87 per cent of Kinshasa's imports go through South Africa, which exports 45 per cent of Zaïrean exports of copper (which account for 88 per cent of the country's export earnings) and 40 per cent of its oil and cobalt (40 per cent).

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No state in the world guards itself against the sale of South African goods on its territory. The large numbers of imports, except customs officials, fraud and wide-open borders do not permit enforcing a strict boycott. In the Ivory Coast, the government has set up real trade lobbies using Asians (East African) who are not smuggled out before they are out and polished in Belgium (Antwerp) and Israel. The Angolan firm of Diamant was disbanded on July 20 and replaced

went on a quiet swing through East Africa. While his visit to Somalia was confirmed, none of his other destinations in the region were confirmed. The Kenyan authorities, for example, denied he visited their country. In Somalia, it was President Siyad Barre who visited in May 1984, he had visited South Africa. On the other hand, "Pik" Bobba's December 22-23 visit to the Comoros did not go unnoticed. Arriving at Moroni in a Mystère-60 without identification markings, he was seen several times in the company of the well-known mercenary Bob Denard, alias Moustapha McModjou, head of President Abdallah's household guard which is sponsored by none other than South Africa. Denard, who has long had close relations with the Gabonese presidency, spends his time between Pretoria and Moroni, and several mercenary units under him were sent to South Africa in 1984 for para-military training.

Although its relations with Pretoria are not as intense, the Seychelles too is no less dependent on South Africa for its trade and also because of its importance in its budget of the money earned from hundreds of South African tourists visiting the country every year. Often South Africa holds a variable fascination for African people. Some years ago, for example, Ghana had a hard time trying to prevent some of its nationals from emigrating to South Africa in search of work, especially in the Transkei Bantustan.

These economic and political ties between African states and Pretoria are above all indicative of the breakdown in attempts to promote inter-African trade. In such trade represents only 5 per cent of the total commerce, principally because of the lack of such means of communication on

THE COMMONEST banknote in Haiti is the five gourdes bill, which bears the portrait of Jean Duvalier, the country's former President-for-Life. Underneath, there are words to the effect that the bill can be exchanged by the bearer for United States currency at the rate of five gourdes per dollar. There follows the name of the printers of the banknote, a Munch-based firm.

Such unashamed attention is rare in Third World countries, which tend to conceal their dependence behind the facade of touchy nationalism. The Duvalier regime's blithe impudence did not trouble itself with such niceties. When Francis Girod and his team of 50 or so actors and technicians went to Haiti to shoot "Descente aux Enfers", the country had only just emerged from 29 years of dictatorship. From April to June, they were caught up in the unpredictable aftermath of Haiti's liberation, when an anxious population made a determined bid to take revenge on Duvalier's henchmen.

"Descente aux Enfers" is a big-budget movie, and financial backing was difficult to find. But its producer Arnel Zeïtoun, responsible for "Coup de Foudre" and "Sous le Vent", clearly believes in Sergio Leone's somewhat Delphic notion that "a movie should only cost what it costs." In other words, if a film's budget is trimmed too heavily, its artistic worth can suffer.

The movie tells a straightforward story of much of its interest to its extraordinary setting, Haiti. Both Zeïtoun and the film resisted suggestions that the film should be set in a more accessible place, such as Corsica or even in studio near Paris.

Zeïtoun has a single co-producer, La 5 (France's second television channel), which chipped in with six million francs (about £700,000). He has a budget of 8 million francs (about £1 million) from other sources. Zeïtoun's own contribution, in the form of credits and direct financing, amounts to 11 million francs (about £1,600,000).

The ingredients of David Goodia's novel, "Descent to Hell", which is set in Jamaica, include a love relationship between an alcoholic and his right-wing, murderous, and a wrongful arrest. What counts is not so much the mining story, but the atmosphere of decadence, imprisonment and tropical damnation.

Francis Girod, whose previous films include "Le Trio Infernal", "La Baigneuse", "Le Bon Plaisir", and "L'Étê Sauvage", has always attracted by books television drama, who now seems to have emerged from his romantic period and adopted a new thriller genre. Girod completely transformed the story and made the central female character much younger. Alain, a writer in his fifties, and his very young wife, Lola, go to Haiti to try and understand each

The French film director Francis Girod recently completed the filming of "Descente aux Enfers" in Haiti, a country that is only just beginning to get back on its feet after a 29-year dictatorship under the Duvalier dynasty. The film, which was adapted by Jean-Loup Debadie from a novel by David Goodia, stars Claude Brasseur and Sophie Marceau. Olivier Barrot reports on the film-makers' experiences in the Caribbean island.



Claude Brasseur, Arnel Zeïtoun and Francis Girod filming "Descente aux Enfers".

Glimpse of hell in Haiti

Other. The blood that is shed, the violent acts that are committed, the possible reconciliation between the two. The atmosphere is reminiscent of a John Huston movie or a Tennessee Williams play.

In Girod's view, "Descente aux Enfers" is a murder story whose subject is a passionate love affair. For the film, he has adapted a new, less sardonic approach, just as Debadie has abandoned the efforts of François Truffaut's "L'Overture", became the world's first black republic in 1804.

He was also attracted to the island because of the Haitians' self-censorship or exile. "Descente aux Enfers" is a novel by David Goodia, a character straight out of Graham Greene's "The End of the Affair". An immaculately dressed dandy whose arm is languidly on the knob of his cane, Jolicoeur keeps open house at the Raffles in Singapore or the American Colony in Jerusalem.

Zeïtoun, who received a thorough classical education and is a prominent dealer in the works of the Duvalier regime. During his brief spell as a minister in the new government, when he was strongly challenged by expatriate Haitian politicians, he had time to back Zeïtoun and Girod's plan to shoot a movie in Haiti, and to help negotiate financing from a material point of view.

True, he had been a friend of Pierre Brasseur, the late father of the leading actor in "Descente aux Enfers". And of course it was nice that France, which had kept its distance from Haiti for 29 years, should remember the existence of a country whose culture it had so strongly influenced in the past.

Brasseur has just appeared in a succession of media films and returns to the stage this autumn in a Roger Planchon production. It is easy to see why he has been drawn to the passionate, tortured character of Alain.

His young wife Lola is played by Sophie Marceau, a teenage daughter of Brasseur's, and the sequel "La Boum" and its sequel "La Boum 2". Marceau can be reckoned

researcher at CERNA (Centre d'Etudes et de Recherches aux Ressources Naturelles), "the West has more to fear from Pretoria's aggressive export marketing than from its withdrawal from markets."

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There were fears that the shooting of "Descente aux Enfers" in Haiti would turn out to be an ordeal like that of "Ford Square" in Mauritania. But they were unfounded: by bringing all their equipment with them, the film-makers greatly reduced their risk.

Living conditions were comfortable in the capital Port-au-Prince. Decadent was different: the world's largest expatriate community in Haiti, with its own newspapers. The revolution was smouldering, and the French film-makers wondered what sort of reception they would get. No one in living memory had ever shot a

The crew perked up when they got to Cap-Haitien, formerly Cap-François, where Christopher Columbus landed in 1492. The scene was a delight, and the French football team was sweeping aside through the early rounds of the World Cup.

Francis Girod and his team were virtually unhindered by the Haitian revolution, to which the film was allowed to make only a passing reference. But they could see the reasons that lay behind it — the poverty in Port-au-Prince, slum towns like those in Calcutta or Rio de Janeiro, people sleeping in the streets, Rhesus monkeys, number plates, and television programmes were a constant reminder of the cultural power exerted over Haiti by the United States and France.

Slowly Haiti is learning the rules of democracy and is due to hold elections in 1985. "Descente aux Enfers" will be released in December.

(July 24)

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Le Monde

Director: Andre Fontaine
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THE GUARDIAN, August 17, 1985

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The choice of the rest of the cast reflects Girod's penchant for putting actors in unexpected roles. Marie Dubois plays a woman driven by greed and frustration. Gérard Philipe, the playboy member of the Christie comedy team, is given a very ambiguous role. Betsy Blair's role refers back to her earlier performances in "Marty" and "Grande Illusion". Hippolyte Girardot plays the team's support from Africa, actors like Sidiki Bakula, Jean-Baptiste Tjemele, and Baron.

The facilities are non-existent. Olsson in Port-au-Prince, one of the Raffles in Singapore or the American Colony in Jerusalem.

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The Washington Post

Russia Expected U.S. Attack, Says Gordievsky

WASHINGTON — The London station of the Soviet KGB was placed on extraordinary alert in early 1981 by a Moscow directive stating that the United States was preparing to attack the Soviet Union, according to informed accounts of statements by the most valued British double agent ever to defect from the U.S.S.R.

According to informed sources, there are many blanks in the Gordievsky sequence, and dozens of questions about it. For example, it could not be learned when Gordievsky told his British handlers about the 1981 order, or whether — if they knew of it in a timely fashion — the British informed the United States right away, or only much later.

Gordievsky, a KGB agent since 1962, was first recruited in 1972 as a double agent when he was stationed in Copenhagen, where he served two tours of duty. He was assigned to London in 1983, became deputy chief of the KGB station there and in June 1985, was promoted to station chief.

The British government and the Reagan administration have declined to make any comment on the information in this article or on the source of the information. It is included in London on Gordievsky's earlier.

The directive received in London, by Gordievsky's account, was neither a momentary bureaucratic blunder nor a fleeting alarm inside the world's largest espionage network. It was a carefully planned secret police agency, then headed by Yuri Andropov. The order remained in force, Gordievsky reportedly said, through 1982 and until the end of 1983, when it was lifted without explanation.

Britain previously had not known double agent inside the Soviet system, Col. Oleg

While the order remained in force, on Nov. 12, 1982, Andropov became the surprise successor to the long-serving Leonid Brezhnev as general secretary of the Soviet Communist Party, the first former KGB chief ever named Soviet leader.

From 1981 to 1983, Gordievsky reportedly said, special vehicles involved a mock mobile trade exhibit led into Eastern Europe by the KGB's intermediary and courier, British businessman and intelligence agent Greville Wynne. Both Pankovsky and Wynne were caught. (Wynne was released in a swap in 1964.)

M16 is said to have been much more imaginative in the Gordievsky case, and even his wife, to extricate Gordievsky's wife and two daughters, whom he left behind. Sources said the plan involved transporting Gordievsky by land, air and sea, but details of his escape are still top-secret. American intelligence experts suggest the escape may still be confounding a furious KGB, and if so, could be usable again in some form.

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Admiral British and American intelligence experts deem the "exfiltration" of Gordievsky by Britain's M16 as an operation as imaginative as anything a cloak-and-dagger literature. M16 chief, as it said, assured Gordievsky that if he signed from Moscow that he was a double agent, his life would be spared. Her Majesty's Government would be drawn on to extricate him — a promise that they fulfilled.

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Pankovsky, whose information was shared with the United States, was given similar assurances under similar circumstances in 1982 when he risked a recall to Moscow. As Gordievsky well knew, the British government's inability to make good on that commitment to Pankovsky cost him his life.

The 1982 "exfiltration" scheme involved a mock mobile trade exhibit led into Eastern Europe by the KGB's intermediary and courier, British businessman and intelligence agent Greville Wynne. Both Pankovsky and Wynne were caught. (Wynne was released in a swap in 1964.)

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Oil Peace, Gulf War

The Dollar About Right

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Chernobyl Repairs Going Slowly

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A MAN OF LETTERS, Selected Essays, by V. S. Pritchett, Random House, 305pp, \$19.95

By Stephen Koch

I HAVE a little confession to make about V. S. Pritchett. Although he is, by general consent, the most distinguished, humane, best read and most readable critic of literature now writing in England and maybe America too, your reviewer has difficulty reading him — when he appears in magazines. I admire Pritchett increasingly. When I read his work in books, I sink with a sigh into the enchantment of his mind. Yet before the critical prose of V. S. Pritchett in one of the magazines he writes for — *The New York Statesman*, *The New Yorker*, *The New York Review of Books* — I become as one suddenly struck down with selective dyslexia. Let's say the latest issue has Pritchett on Nabokov. I pick up the magazine and — no go. My eyes will not move. By the end of column one, the final all-servant flame of readability has flickered out.

There is nothing to do with dyslexia, or the (high) readability of V. S. Pritchett, and everything to do with the nature of journalism, including what the reader is holding at this moment, literary journalism. Pritchett sees himself as a literary journalist, not an excellent one, but a journalist. In these beautiful and sometimes magisterial essays first appeared in some magazine. One number of literary journalism of his generation — Moleculin Muggerridge, Graham Greene — are for more gifted for journalism. Muggerridge makes history. Pritchett has no more sense at all, it is his sense of the past that is impeccable. Everything becomes golden history of his touch. And history is a past magazine.

This life-force of newspaper is urgency. In this wonderful book we find the most literary of Pritchett's essays, meditations on George Eliot and Max Beerbaum, Nathaniel West and Benjamin Constant, and many others. They are seemingly effortless products of a wonderfully intellectual intellect. Every thought is magisterial, for reasons and bad, educated producing around 1960. The syllabus is gentle, profound, impeccable. It is also like what used to be required for very good English majors in the USA. Transforming everything into history, it seems untouched by history. It does not think thought gentlemen — real gentlemen. I am not being facetious — real think. Innocent of ideology and humility, it has never stood at what Lionel Trilling called the bloody crossroads of culture and politics meet, its culture is complete, and so necessarily a little belated. Pritchett is meditating on the story already told.

What Pritchett does derive from journalism in economy. Here is Pritchett on Balzac's voice. "Many of his contemporaries thought [it] rather a loud, pushing, incessant voice; though others found that the power of story-telling, wit, and fantasy, and its energy, imposed an irresistible spell. The voice of Balzac performs. It charges like an actor's. It is sensual, skeptical, restless in a blunt way ready with a rash of generalization, the journalistic caricature; it easily contorts the lexicon in passages of vivid metaphor, and of hyperbole, and yet passes without a blush into the may be comic, shames or tender. It is a

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a final protest, elegant but unheard, in virtue's vast idyl twilight. The truth is that serious literature and cultural journalism is probably in better shape at this moment than it has been for a long time. The audience, that in many decades, I am not bested: I know the situation is far from wonderful, but your reviewer has more magazines. In America, both *The New Yorker* and *The New York Review of Books* are desperately in need of serious competition and the enrichment of his mind. Yet before the critical prose of V. S. Pritchett in one of the magazines he writes for — *The New York Statesman*, *The New Yorker*, *The New York Review of Books* — I become as one suddenly struck down with selective dyslexia. Let's say the latest issue has Pritchett on Nabokov. I pick up the magazine and — no go. My eyes will not move. By the end of column one, the final all-servant flame of readability has flickered out.

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Gentleman Of Letters



V. S. Pritchett — picture by Gerry Wouwer

voice bursting with non-stop interest in whatever his eye catches and the guesses of his own genius. Above all it is personally intrusive: Balzac hushes in among his characters and uses the action to explain to their face that they are specimens taken out of a natural history of society.

About a hundred effortlessly revealing words. Roland Barthes devoted an entire book to the same thing. Note that Pritchett, like Barthes is not one original observation (while Barthes is all originality), and yet leaves one with the sense of seeing the subject on the whole for the first time.

It is very English. Pritchett writes in what Samuel Johnson, in his great essay on the middle style of English, called "the middle style of English prose." An obvious prose is Cyril Connolly,

but I would aim much higher and suggest Virginia Woolf. *A Man of Letters* belongs to the Common Reader. The Common Reader, like Virginia Woolf's *Heath and Narrative*, is more just than of a gentleman? than she is, has a wider range and some much that is very glorious virtual reliable. But are important writers of fiction who when using the middle style in their own fiction of course, have a common voice. That voice has said some of the most impressive and powerful things British literature has had to say, and V. S. Pritchett is its great living master.

Stephen Koch teaches writing at Princeton. His new novel "The Bachelor's Bride" is out this summer.

THE GUARDIAN, August 17, 1986

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Park of delights

By Martin Walker in Moscow

THE West knows Gorky Park as the sinister location of the grisly killings in the excellent novel of the same name by Martin Cruz Smith. It is time someone redressed the balance, because the Central Park of Culture and Leisure in the name of Maxim Gorky to give it the full and formal title, embodies a great deal of what is best about Soviet life.

It is in many ways a deeply serious place, where "culture" has that rather old-fashioned connotation of learning and solemn self-improvement. It is worth looking at the facilities on view recently, for example, during a theme day dedicated to "Kosmos-2000" (I Muru), which translated rather clumsily as "Space" — for the Kerth and for Pasha.

This meant a series of lectures and exhibitions and meetings with staff of the Institute of Cosmonautics at each of the four large stages in the vast park complex. There was something called an "open house" which meant that lecturers on how leavers serve men; on space observations, and on metallurgy in the space age. And there was an exhibition, with guides and lectures, an space exploration in the future.

There was not allowed to monopolise the park facilities. At the central stage, a large open-air theatre, the morning began with poetry readings and a brief lecture of a new musical work, and then after the cosmonauts had finished their readings, there was a concert given jointly by musicians from Warsaw and Moscow in the name of Soviet-Polish Friendship.

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The last of the big theatres, known as Map of the World from its decor, began with a long meeting of the highly popular club of lovers of Moscow history, and in the evening there was a long lecture by eminent doctors who then gave a medical version of Any Questions.

Behind this garden are two children's playgrounds. The first is broken down and dangerous, with splintered climbing frames, collapsed slides, and rusted swings. The other, all carefully done in the old Russian style

